

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: April 6, 2010  
Electronic Signature for Kevin M. Kocun: /Kevin M. Kocun/

**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**

Group Art Unit: 3733  
Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-395 CONT  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

In re Patent Application of:	:
Markworth et al.	:
Application No.: 10/655,440	: Group Art Unit: 3733
Filed: September 4, 2003	: Examiner: M. C. Hoffman
For: SYSTEM FOR USE IN SPINAL STABILIZATION	:

---

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed February 18, 2010, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.